

it is my duty." He started immediately for Saratoga, and when he appeared in the conference hall, the entire assemblage arose and gave him a subdued and most impressive greeting. He delivered his address as he had prepared it in advance, and at its close added a passage which, inspired as it clearly was by the affliction that had befallen him, made a profound impression upon his auditors:

"I have something I want to say to you—with all my heart and soul I want you to be alert to act upon it. I speak to you women primarily, but to the men also.

"Surely in this great crisis where we are making sacrifices and making ready for sacrifices on a scale never before known, surely when we are demanding such fealty and idealism on the part of the young men sent abroad to die, surely we have the right to ask and expect an equal idealism in life from the men and women who stay at home.

"Our young men have gone to the other side, very many of them to give up in their joyous prime all the glory and all the beauty of life to pay the greatest price of death in battle for a lofty ideal. Now, when they are doing that, cannot we men and women at home make up our minds to try to insist upon a lofty idealism here at home?

"And remember, friends, when I speak of lofty idealism, I mean ideals to be realized. I abhor that mock idealism which finds expression only in phrase and vanishes when the phrase has been uttered. I am speaking of the idealism

which will permit no man in public or private
to say any-
thing lofty as a cloak for base action. I am
asking for
the idealism which will demand that every
promise ex-
pressed or implied be kept, that every
profession of de-
cency, of devotion that is lofty in words,
should be made
good by deeds. I am asking for an idealism
which shall
find expression beside the hearthstone and in
the family
and in the councils of the state and the
nation, and I ask
you men in this great crisis, and I ask you
women who
have now come into the political arena, to
stand shoulder
to shoulder with your husbands and
brothers and sons.